(XXXI YEAR.) THE (No 1593)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1776

To the PEOPLE of PENNSYLVANIA.

LETTER VIII.

THE all wise CREATOR having enabled every man to judge, in some degree, what is good for himself, the study of government is a duty of the highest concern to all the members of a free state. But men, in general, may be said to *feel* better than they can *see*; and therefore seldom take the trouble to employ their thoughts on public affairs, while they are tolerably administered, nor is it till oppression becomes flagrant, and even palpable to the sight, that a people are universally roused into a serious attention to abuses in government.

Numerous are the evils which spring from distractions and convulsions in a state; but they are often productive of one advantage which outweighs them all. The civil constitution of countries, although long neglected, through the indolence of the people and tottering on the verge of dissolution, have nevertheless been thus purged of their corruptions, brought back to their first principles, and made to flourish, with renewed vigour, through many succeeding ages. But as this can only be the work of heroism, conducted by wisdom, virtue, and prudence every writer who, upon such great and trying occasions, seeks to exaggerate, or conceal facts, to state but one side of a question, to warp the judgment by partial representations, to give railing for reason, invectives for arguments, and to urge a people into hasty resolutions, by addressing the inflamed passions, rather than the sober reason---every such writer, I say, insults his country in distress, and is a fellow-worker with its enemies to hasten its ruin

Had the author of *Common Sense* considered this, or were he possessed with the least reverence for the judgment or feelings of a great and enlightened people, whom he has thought himself fit to address, his performance would have been of a different nature. it would at least have worn the resemblance of argument, and contained something which had a chance to meet the reason of wise men, and to stand the test of their candid examination. He would have listened patiently to their remarks upon his production, and would have coolly replied to their objections. He would not have dared to offer such an indignity to the public, as to throw out impotent threats (instead of answers) against the meanest of his fellow-citizens (if fellow-citizens he has in this place) merely for endeavouring, in a country yet free, to detect his misrepresentations, to supply his defect of materials, and thereby enable a people to judge fairly of their own weighty concerns.

The contest in which America is engaged was not lightly undertaken. The sword was drawn in defence of our laws and liberties. Till these are rendered *safe*, let it not be returned to the scabbard; but still let not the scabbard be thrown away. if our just rights can be best secured by *reconciliation* with our own flesh and blood---with a yet powerful nation, whose religion, laws and manners, in our former happy days, we gloried to call our own---God forbid that we should shut the door against it, by any hasty measure among ourselves. This happy period to our miseries is still hoped for and devoutly wished, not only by multitudes of the zealous friends of America through all the colonies, but by whole colonies in their public capacity, regardless of any thing that has yet been offered to the contrary. While this continues to be the case, he who seeks to disturb the *union* which we nobly supported on our former ground, is the worst foe to his country. If the British administration has a tool here, labouring to forward their ruinous purposes by divisions and distractions, THOU ART THE MAN---even thou, the author of *Common Sense*, who hast started thine *ignis fatuus* to draw the unwary into untried regions, full of tremendous precipices and quagmires treacherous to the foot; whither the wise and considerate think it not safe to follow. Couldst thou succeed in this, thou dost effectually confirm all the slanders of our ministerial foes against us; and instead of America strong in *domestic union* and supported by a respectable part of Britain, thou wilt give us Britain *united*, and America *rent by divisions*, amidst the mighty contest. Thou sayest that NOW is the exact time for adopting thy plan, and boldest up ruin as the sure consequence of the least delay!---Thou saidst the same, and didst threaten the same, near three months ago, if we hesitated a moment to follow thy advice. Possibly any time may be thy NOW, especially if thou shouldst have nothing to lose, and peradventure mayst hope to gain something by the change. But when the Almighty shall be pleased to say NOW, thy interpretations will be unnecessary. He will send conviction along with it in circumstances so clear and unambiguous, that they *who run may read them*.

The public will excuse the occasional notice I am forced to take of the answers hitherto given to my letters. Were I disposed to deviate from my plan, or, by immediate retaliation, to draw the attention of the reader to the "political characters connections and dependencies" of my antagonists (which the author of *Common Sense*, in his new character of the Forester, allows to be very essential in such a controversy) I believe it would add little to the credit of their works; especially if upon enquiry it should be found that they have neither "character nor connections" in this place; and that they are the avowed instruments and dependents of some, who, having no concern in our domestic affairs, are nevertheless constantly intermeddling with them, to the great disturbance of the province, and injury of the public cause.

But I have no immediate occasion to enter into such an enquiry, and am happy to find that, although near a dozen answers have been given in one shape or another to my two or three first letters, nothing has been yet offered worthy of a particular reply. The Forester seems the chief champion against me. He makes me write what he pleases, that he may answer as he pleases.---The following is a specimen of his justice, in quoting from me.

"If we now EFFECT independence, we must be considered as a faithless people, in the sight of all mankind, and could scarcely expect the confidence of any nation upon earth, or look up to heaven for its approving sentence;"---and upon this he exclaims,---"Art thou mad, Cato, or art thou foolish, or art thou *both*, or art thou *worse* than *both*?" Now, I can fairly leave those who have read my letters, to apply any or all of these epithets to me as their candour shall direct. But those who read but *one* paper (in which it is thought proper only to publish the answers to my letters, without the letters themselves) may verily believe I have asserted, that, *if ever we effect independence, neither heaven nor earth will smile upon us.* It is hoped, therefore, that the publishers of that paper, if they should never insert any other part of my letters (in which they may use their own pleasure) will be so just as to give this mangled paragraph entire; and then it will be in these words:---

"In short, (if) *thus contradicting all our former public professions* (we) *should* (now EFFECT independency) *as our own act, before it appears clearly to the world to have been forced upon us by the cruel hand of the parent-state, we could neither hope for union nor success in the attempt.* (We must be considered as a faithless people in the sight of all mankind, and could scarcely expect the confidence of any nation upon earth, or look up to heaven for its approving sentence.")

The discerning reader will easily see that our honest Forester has not scrupled to take part of one sentence and connect it with another; which wholly alters the sense. He gives us only what is included within the above parentheses, and suppresses all that essential part which is in italics. He who can thus pilfer from the sense of another is come to his last shift, and it may be presumed would not stick at any thing to promote his cause. But what can I expect from one who uses the immortal *Milton* much in the same way?

In the pamphlet called *Common Sense*, endeavouring to establish his favourite doctrine, that reconciliation with Great-Britain is now impossible, and urging us on to blood, whatever terms may be offered, he has the unparalleled confidence to add as follows.---"For, as MILTON *wisely* expresses---never can true reconcilement grow, where wounds of deadly hate have pierc'd so deep."---How unlucky is this quotation! Our author thinks he has snatched a coal from the altar; but it is like that which the foolish eagle stole, and thereby set her nest on fire, which consumed herself and her brood. Would not the reader believe that the author had here given us some wise sentiment of MILTON, fit to be copied in the conduct of a christian people? But look at the place (Parad. Lost, B. iv.) and you will find that it was the *speech of the Devil*, meditating the destruction of mankind; and suited only to the desperate purposes of those, who are in the same dreadful state of mind in which our divine poet describes the Devil to have been at the time.

——— Horror and doubt distract
His troubled thoughts; and from the bottom stir
The hell within him. For within him hell
He brings, and round about him, nor from hell
One step, no more than from himself, can fly.---

"Get thee behind me" thou abandoned writer; and take back another of thy compliments! For canst *thou* "have the feelings of a man"---*thou* who art labouring to fill the hearts of thy fellow-mortals with irreconcileable hatred, and the *feelings of the Devil*? As for my *feelings* on this occasion, I trust they are founded on the doctrines of the SAVIOUR OF MANKIND, who teaches that no offences in this world can be so great among brethren as to preclude reconciliation. "If thy brother repent forgive him"---and if thou canst not forgive, How canst thou lift up thine eyes to thy Heavenly Father for forgiveness of thy sins, or even those of thy single pamphlet? Hadst thou done justice to MILTON, thou mightest have shewn him in his own proper person, upon my side of the question; proclaiming the doctrines of his Heavenly Master.---

Oh shame to men! Devil with Devil damn'd
Firm concord holds; men only disagree
Of creatures rational, though *under hope*
Of *heavenly grace*: And God proclaiming peace,
Yet live in hatred, enmity, and strife
Among themselves, and levy cruel wars,
Wasting the earth, each other to destroy.

Thou mayst apply this to our cruel oppressors; and I say nothing against thee therein, except where thou urgest thy terrible doctrine of the impossibility of reconciliation; and to make it wholly impossible art striving to inspire sentiments into thy brethren which would disgrace their christian profession. But I leave thee on this head; and if thou dost not too much interrupt me, shall, in two or three letters more, leave the public and posterity finally to judge between thee and me. *Suum cuique decus posteritas rependit.* I proceed then, with my remarks upon thy furious antipathy to mixt governments, in which thou hast surpassed all the writers I have met with; nor shall I quote any against thee except those who are acknowledged to have stood foremost in their opposition to the encroachments of monarchy. The popular leaders, who overturned the monarchy in the last age, were not themselves friends to republics. They only made use of the name to procure the favour of the people; and whenever by such means they had mounted to the proper height, each of them, in his turn, began to kick the people from him, as a ladder then useless.

Cromwell exercised the power of a king, and of the most absolute king, under the specious name of a *Protector*. The instrument of republican government, which he had at first extolled as the most perfect work of human invention, he began (as soon as he thought his authority sufficiently established) to represent "as a rotten plank upon which no man could trust himself without sinking." He had his eye fixed upon the crown; but when he procured an offer of it from a packed parliament, his courage failed him. He had outwitted himself, by his own hypocrisy; and in his way to power had thrown such an odium upon the name of king, that his own family, apprehensive he would be murdered the moment the diadem should touch his brow, persuaded him to decline that honour.

The great SIDNEY never meant more, by his celebrated work, than to reform the abuses of mixt government; and to restrain the rapid progress which the nation was making, in his time, towards absolute monarchy. And he was as much a foe to Cromwell as to Charles the First, considering both as governing *above the laws*. But he did not write against kings generally, more than other rulers who might abuse their power.

"Nothing, says he, is farther from my intention than to speak irreverently of kings," and he explains what kings he means, viz. those limited by law, in mixt governments. He has wrote a whole section to shew that the best governments in the world have been composed (as the English is) of *monarchy*, *aristocracy*, and *democracy*. He says God ordained a mixt government, answering to this in all its parts; and consisting of a single judge or *chief captain* (we contend not for names) a *council* of seventeen chosen men, or sanhedrim; and the *general assemblies* of the people. Is not this our own form compleat? When he speaks of popular governments, he uses the utmost precision. "To avoid unnecessary disputes (says he) I give the name of popular governments to those of Rome, Athens, Sparta, and the like; but improperly, unless the same may also be given to many that are usually called *monarchies*, since there is nothing of violence in either. As to popular governments, in the strict sense, that is pure democracy, where the people in themselves, and by themselves, perform all that belongs to government, I know of no such thing; and if it be in the world, I have nothing to say for it." And more explicitly still he says, "being no way concerned in the defence of democracy---I may leave our knight (*Filmer*) like Don Quixote, fighting against the phantasm of his own brain, and to say what he pleases against such governments as never were, unless in such a place as San Marino, near Senegaglia in Italy, where an hundred men govern a barbarous rock that no man invades. As for democracy, he may say what he pleases of it; and I believe *it can suit only with the convenience of a small town, accompanied with such circumstances as are seldom to be found.*" If *Sidney* understood any thing of the matter, we see that every colony in America is a ready too unwieldy for such a government, and therefore it cannot be a model for an immense continent. In a word, although this great man lived before the revolution, he laid its foundation, died a martyr to its principles, and by one of the first acts of parliament made under it, his attainder was repealed, and a solemn national sanction given to his writings.

The testimony of another professed WHIG, nay an INDEPENDENT WHIG (the famous *Gordon*, in his discourses upon *Tacitus*) shall come next: "Monarchy, according to Plato, is the best government or the worst; to which opinion, says he, I subscribe, as I do to that of *Philip de Commines*, that England is the place in the world where the public is most equally administered, and where the people suffer the least violence. We are blessed with a form of government, which Tacitus mentions as the most perfect, and thinks the hardest to be framed; that happy balance and mixture of interests, that secures every interest."

Polybius (as he is quoted by *Montagu*, on the rise and fall of republics) agrees with Plato. "The best form of government, says he, is that which is composed of a due admixture of *monarchy*, *aristocracy* and *democracy*."---Of all legislators he prefers *Lycurgus*, whom he looks upon rather as divinely inspired, than as a man. To perpetuate the Spartan government, he united the peculiar excellencies of the best forms into one, that neither of the *three* parts, by swelling beyond its just bounds, might ever be able to deviate into its original inborn defects. Montagu adds---"I cannot help observing, on this occasion, that our own constitution, as settled at the revolution, so nearly coincides with Lycurgus's general plan, that it seems at first sight to be formed by that very model." And indeed in the constitution of mixt governments, there is something more substantial than an attachment to the mystical number *three*, in this *triple* union of power. All power lodged, uncontrouled, in *one* or *many*, has been shewn to be full of danger; lodged in *two* distinct bodies, they may chance to disagree long; but the addition of a *third* turns the scale, and further additions would only be clogs.

I have not lost sight of *Montesquieu*, whose sentiments, as applicable to the English constitution, in *practice* as well as *theory*, shall be briefly introduced in my next, to close this part of my work; and then let the author of *Common Sense* combat the arguments of these great men as well as he can; for he has yet said nothing that is any way applicable to them, and must look for better arguments than those drawn from the nature of the English constitution, if he expects to save his candle. For my part I still stand upon my first ground, and have no sentiment which I wish to hide on this occasion. When it shall clearly appear, that we can be no longer

with Britain, or that we can be more secure in any other connection (and the time which will enable us to judge of this cannot be very remote) the author of these letters shall not then lisp a word against whatever measures the sense of the majority of this country, fairly taken, shall adopt for the common good; and will be ready to give his best assistance for carrying them into execution. But he must ever bear his testimony against being surprised into public decisions, by misrepresentations, ungrounded suggestions, and delusive arguments; too evidently proceeding from prejudice, or predetermination of a question, in which the happiness of a great continent is involved.

CATO.

To Messrs. DIXON and HUNTER, printers of the Virginia Gazette.

GENTLEMEN,

IN times of distraction and trouble, it may naturally be expected that the prints will be filled with advice to the multitude how to act in a situation so dangerous and difficult. At such a season, to mislead the unwary, or misinform the ignorant, ought to be regarded as the highest crime. During some months your papers have teemed with exhortations to independence, war, defiance, free trade, and foreign alliances. It appears, the writers were often too sanguine, and that they more frequently proceeded on mistaken principles; yet I bore all with some degree of patience, till I lately met with a piece signed a *Planter*. This writer promises such exorbitant gain from a free trade as might readily engage the people to aim at it by every means in their power, and to scorn an accommodation with Great-Britain, as the highest injustice and oppression. It is necessary they should be undeceived, and I shall endeavour briefly to do it. The first assertion in which the Planter seems wrong is this; that the British merchants have it in their power to impose what prices they please on their own commodities and ours. This is in some measure the case, but it may easily be shewn that we cannot be much injured by it. The trade from Britain to America is general, and not confined to any particular class or company. Where extravagant profits are expected, numbers will naturally engage in the same pursuit, and the rivalship natural to all men employed in one business will induce every merchant, or company of merchants, to go a step beyond their opponents in favour of those with whom they deal; and by these means the price of commodities on both sides must soon be fixed at such a rate as will afford a moderate advantage to both. I am confident the Virginia trade, during many years, has been conducted in a manner which can raise no reasonable complaint against the merchants settled amongst us. We have been chiefly hurt by their great expedient to make themselves popular, allowing long and extensive credit; and if we do not comply with our engagements, and pay our debts, they are not to blame. What the *Planter* affirms, concerning the price of British commodities in the northern colonies, is too ridiculous to be listened to, and cannot be true. He considers it as a mighty evil that all our merchants are not natives. If we have not industry or ability to conduct our own commerce, we are certainly obliged to those who will; and we are surely not prohibited from being traders for ourselves, and carrying our commodities where we please, after touching at England! Besides, it appears evident that we are not yet prepared for an extensive commerce. The first and most natural employment of men, in a new country, is agriculture. Manufactures of any kind are seldom carried to any degree of perfection till the number of people exceeds what is necessary to cultivate the land. The same may be said of all mechanical trades. We always find, whenever a tradesman can afford to purchase a spot of ground, he quits his business, and turns farmer. Whilst this disposition, so natural to all men, continues to prevail among us, we cannot expect that such numbers as the *Planter* imagines will be employed in ship-building, sail-making, or manufactures of any kind.

The *Planter* next proceeds to reckon all the profits of the British merchants as so much clear loss to us, because it frequently happens that factors, after having saved a competent fortune, remove to England, and there live upon it. We need give ourselves little concern about this, since they do not carry with them our fields, our people, and seldom our money. Nor have we any right to complain, for if our trade is productive of such immense advantages, we can certainly as well afford to send factors to manage it in England as the English can afford to send them here, and it is our own fault if we do not. With a due degree of industry and enterprise, we might, by these means, reap all the profits which now fall to their share, if we did not think that we could employ ourselves to more advantage at home.

What the *Planter* affirms concerning the price of our staple in foreign markets is more insufferable than all his other assertions, and fully as void of foundation. He gravely tells us, that tobacco pays a duty of sevenpence halfpenny per pound, when it is landed in England, all clear loss to us. This affirmation must either proceed from wilful misrepresentation, or the most shameful ignorance. Every one, with the least knowledge of trade knows, that when tobacco is exported from England to other countries, the duty of sevenpence halfpenny per pound is drawn back. I have conversed with many sensible merchants, who could have no interest in deceiving me, and was always told that twopence halfpenny or three-pence per pound from the French agents was reckoned an excellent price. Particular circumstances may sometimes raise it higher, and it very often sinks lower. It is notorious, that in the year 1772, after many bankruptcies had happened in Britain, the French were with difficulty prevailed on to give two pence. The case is nearly the same in exportations to Spain, Portugal, Italy, Holland, and Germany.

The *Planter* seems to think we lie under great disadvantages in the sale of our wheat and flour. He certainly knows that we have not hitherto been obliged to send either directly to England. For the most part they have been disposed of in the West Indies, or on the continent of Europe. If our account for sales some years past is impartially examined, we shall perhaps find that we could not much have mended it by going any where else. The *Planter* mentions hemp and flax likewise, as articles, from the culture of which we must reap an extravagant profit. The management of the first is now well understood in some parts of the colony; and

[illegible] bounty (till lately) upon it from England, we never yet could afford to undersell the Russians. How then can we expect to do it in opposition to Great-Britain, and when we must be at the charge of protecting our own trade? The raising of flax is in a great measure untried, and no good opinion can yet be formed of what may reasonably be expected from it. It must, gentlemen, appear plain to my countrymen that the *Planter* is wrong in all his calculations, and what must be heavier upon us, in case of a separation from Britain, he takes not the least notice of. If we declare ourselves an independent state, the practice of other nations will lay us under a necessity of keeping a standing army and a powerful fleet. It is ridiculous to expect that other powers will undertake to protect us without being paid for it. If we employ them for that purpose, we tacitly resign ourselves to their direction, and come within their power. How far France and Spain (countries under the most despotic government in church and state) may heartily or effectually aid us in our present glorious struggle for liberty, let others determine. Such as are well acquainted with human nature, and the maxims of nations, might readily guess; and I heartily wish we may not trust them too far. If we must support our fleets and armies ourselves, I am not sufficiently acquainted with those matters to know what the expence must amount to; but I am greatly mistaken, was a fair calculation to be made on that side, if it would not overbalance the profits of commerce fixed by the *Planter*, admitting they are true. I have no intention, gentlemen, of entering the lists as a controversial writer; I only wish to put facts into a true point of view, which have been plainly misrepresented. Whether or not it may be necessary to break off all connection with Great-Britain, must soon appear from the deliberations of those wise and respectable assemblies, our congress and conventions. I should deem it an insult my offering advice to bodies of such worthy and capable men. I cannot conclude without declaring, that I have felt the utmost satisfaction in perusing a late piece in your paper, signed *Cato*. It is perspicuous, elegant, and forcible. I wait with impatience to see his other letters.

I am, gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

A VIRGINIAN.

WATERTOWN, *April* 22.

The schooner ——, capt. Cleveland, which sailed from Salem for Winyam, in North-Carolina, the beginning of January last, was taken on her passage by the Scarborough man of war, and sent to Georgia, where after lading with rum, sugar, &c. she proceeded for Boston, when on last Friday se'nnight (not knowing the ministerial fleet and army had evacuated that place) meeting with a heavy gale of wind, she put into the Vineyard, where she was properly taken care of by some boats from thence. One Marsh, the master's mate, and a son of commodore Loring, as prize masters, with two passengers on board, were brought to town for examination on Saturday last.

BOSTON, *April* 25.

A letter from the West-Indies, dated March 1, says, "Every barrel of provision has been bought in the Windward Islands to be sent to Boston. A transport of 26 guns, well manned, and commanded by a lieutenant of one of the ships of war, arrived at Barbados for provisions; the inhabitants refused to let them have it, but he seized upon a ship that accidentally came in, belonging to Lancaster, but last from Ireland, and obliged him to sell his cargo. This day all the transports sailed from Antigua for Boston, but I hope the provincial cruisers among the islands will give a good account of them."

The master of a vessel lately from St. Eustatia, informs, that the ministerial fleet, which was blown off the coast last fall, consisted of 23 sail of transports, under convoy of a 50 and a 20 gun ship, were to sail to this place on or about the first instant.

PROVIDENCE, *April* 20.

We hear from Plymouth, that a schooner arrived there on Saturday last from a harbour near Halifax after a passage of six days, the master of which informs that the first division of the ministerial fleet from Boston, consisting of between 70 and 80 sail, had arrived at Halifax; that they were in much distress for want of fresh provisions, as all that could be spared from Halifax had been sent them while at Boston; and that they were so badly provided with barracks and lodgings, that most of the officers were obliged to lye in tents.

It is reported that the Phœnix, of 44 guns and the Savage sloop, have joined Wallace's fleet, near Long-Island.

NEWPORT, *April* 22.

Last Thursday the brig Cabot, of 14 6 pounders, capt Hynman, arrived here from New-London, and brought a number of heavy cannon, &c. for the defence of this place, being part of the stores lately taken from New-Providence. The next day the Fly tender to admiral Hopkin's fleet came from New-London, sailed through this harbour, and returned the ensuing night. This tender sails remarkably swift.

A ship was seen several days last week standing off and on between this harbour and Block-Island; and by a person who left that island yesterday, we are informed that said ship is the Scarborough; that she, and a 14 gun brig, with a small tender, watered there on Saturday; that the ship's people said capt. Wallace was gone for a larger force, and would return in 3 or 4 days; and that there were no other ships to be seen off.

A schooner, from the West-Indies, loaded with rum, sugar, &c. bound to Boston, was taken by some boats last week, and carried into Dartmouth.

Last Monday arrived in this colony, in 8 days from South-Carolina, the sloop Charlotte, capt. John Joy, who, in lat. 34. 30. was chased by an English man of war.

Mr. John Read, who came passenger with capt. Joy, informs, that the ship Clarissa, of this port, of which he was mate, was taken into the custody of the Raven sloop of war at Georgia, and that he made his escape with capt. John Dennis, who had been taken in a sloop from this place some time before, that the Georgians are very spirited in the present glorious contest; that

[illegible] bour of Charles-town is defended by near 200 cannon, and several vessels of force.

NEW-LONDON, *April* 19.

Last Sunday capt. Biddle, in one of the continental brigs, returned here from a cruize, in which he retook and has brought in a schooner, which a few days before had been taken by the Scarborough man of war, and was then bound into Newport. The people had been all taken out of the schooner and put on board the Scarborough. By various circumstances it appears that the said schooner was bound into this port from the West-Indies, commanded by Daniel Dethon, and is deep laden with West-India goods, and some powder.

Extract of a letter from Boston, April [illegible].

"They are fortifying and putting the harbour, &c. in the best posture of defence they can. To-morrow they talk of sinking hulks by the castle, and erecting a battery at Camp-hill, on Noddle's-island: there was a fleet of the enemy, about 20 sail, lay at Nantasket last week, but they are all gone from thence except the Renown: our small privateers run in and out by Pulling's Point, without any regard to the enemy."

April 26. During the last and beginning of this week, several of the men of war have been cruizing in the offing.

We hear that it is the determination of the continental congress to fortify New-London harbour in the best and most effectual manner; it being judged a good and convenient rendezvous for the continental fleet.

NEW-YORK, *April* 29.

Brigadier general Sullivan, with 6 regiments now here, are to set out for Canada in a day or two; and we hear, the remainder of the army will encamp this week near the city.

May 1. A letter from Edinburgh, dated Dec. 25, to a gentleman in this city, says, "business of all kinds is quite at a stand here; and to add to our misfortune a pestilential distemper rages with great violence among us, which has carried off great numbers, and has thrown the country in general into the utmost consternation."

"*Ship Duchess of Gordon, Sandy-Hook, April* 26, 1776.

"SIR,

"As the commander of his majesty's ships of war on this station, found it expedient for his majesty's service to burn down the pilot house at the Hook, I am to acquaint you, all possible care has been taken of Mr. Adam Dobbs, and his property, and that if you will send down a sloop to the Hook it will be suffered to bring up to New-York Mr. Dobbs, his servants, and effects. I am with regard, sir, your most obedient servant. WILLIAM TRYON.

"To David Mathews, Esq; mayor of the city of New-York."

By his excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq; general and commander in chief of the army of the united colonies.

Whereas an intercourse and correspondence with the ships of war, and other vessels belonging to, and in the service of the king of Great-Britain, is highly detrimental to the rights and liberties of the said colonies: And whereas the committee of safety of the colony of New-York, taking the same under their consideration, on the eighteenth inst. did resolve and order, "that no inhabitant of the said colony on any pretence, or for any purpose whatsoever, either in person or in writing, should directly or indirectly presume to have, or maintain any intercourse whatsoever, with any ship belonging to, or employed in the service of the said king, or with any of his officers or ministers, or with any person or persons on board the same, on pain of being dealt with in the severest manner." Notwithstanding which, there is reason to believe that sundry base and wicked persons, preferring their own present private emolument to their country's weal, have continued to carry on the same, particularly some who under pretence of coming to the market of this city by water, have put themselves, their vessels and effects in the way of the said ships of war, for the purposes of giving intelligence and furnishing them with supplies of provision, and have been taken; to the end that such evil and pernicious practices may be remedied and prevented in future, I hereby publish and declare, that if any person or persons shall hereafter presume to have, hold, or to continue to carry on such intercourse, or any kind of correspondence whatsoever, or furnish and supply the said ships of war, and other vessels in such service, with provisions and necessaries of any kind, that he or they, so offending, will be deemed and considered as an enemy or enemies to the rights of the said colonies, and if apprehended will be treated accordingly.

And I do hereby will and require all officers and soldiers in the army under my command, and most earnestly intreat all persons well attached to the interest of the said colonies, to use their utmost care and diligence for preventing the same, and apprehending and securing all persons who shall be guilty thereof.

Given under my hand, at head quarters, in the city of New-York, this twenty-ninth of April, Anno Domini, 1776.

G. WASHINGTON.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in the continental army before Quebec, dated April 6.

"Our battery at Point Levy has been firing some days; the mortar battery on the heights is not quite finished, and in two days we will have another battery at the Little River. We have had a prodigious quantity of snow this winter; the tops of the fences just begin to appear, and I suppose that in a few days the roads will be impassable. I shall continue as long as there is a probability of the town's being taken. We are discouraged at gen. Lee's not coming; however, gen. Wooster is arrived. We ought to have at least 10,000 men more here in case of troops arriving, otherwise, the Canadians who have affixed us will be ruined. This province is the key of America."

PHILADELPHIA, *May* 3.

Yesterday, according to the law passed last session for increasing the number of representatives in the assembly, the election was held for four burgesses for the city, which did not finish before midnight. The following

poll, it stood as follows, viz. ... Samuel ... 923; Andrew Allen, 923; George Clymer, 924; Alexander Wilcox, 923;——Thomas Willing, 911; Frederick Kuhl, 904; Owen Biddle, 903; and Daniel Roberdeau, 890.

An express, which arrived Thursday morning from the capes, informs that the roebuck and a twenty gun ship, with two sloops and Baldwin's pilot boat, arrived in the Hoarkill road Wednesday at twelve o'clock.

By letters from the camp before Quebec, of the 23d of March, we learn that there were between two thousand five hundred and three thousand men there; that they had ... heavy cannon, mortars, ammunition, &c. &c. that in a few days they were to open a five gun battery at Point Levy, and one of nine guns on the plains of Abraham, with mortars, &c.

From the ... we learn, that a fellow who had been sent ... provisions for our people had found me ... ecton know when and where he might take ... n they sent a tender to seize it, and that our people were going to send some batteaus, under the command of capt. Davis of the Pennsylvania troops, to endeavour to take the tender; and that the river St. Lawrence was full of floating ice.

We farther learn, that priests, Scotchmen and others, had found means to erect the king's standard, about fifteen or twenty miles from Point Levi, where they had collected four or five hundred Canadians; but that a party of one hundred men, under lieut. Hughs, and about two hundred Canadian militia, were gone to rout them.

Extract of a letter ... rth-Carolina, dated Halifax, April 22, 1776.

"A few days past a ten gun sloop commanded by capt. Wright (the same man who met with so warm a reception at Hampton in Virginia) and a sloop of ten guns commanded by that infamous old piratical scoundrel John Goodrich, one of the parties of lord Dunmore and company, came over Ocracock bar, in this province, and took four vessels outward bound. The ten gun sloop went immediately to sea with two of the prizes. The wind not being fair, capt. Goodrich's sloop and the other two prizes remained within the bar. Twenty-three men, headed by a brave young man (Benjamin Bonner of Pamptico river) in four whale boats boarded the old pirate sloop of six guns, sword in hand, and possessed themselves of her, and the whole crew, with a tolerable cargo of valuable arti... They also retook the two prizes. Seven of Good... negroes, a captain, George Blair of the Queen's own royal regiment of blacks, and a soldier of the fourteenth regiment, are among the prisoners. The sloop and two prizes are arrived safe at Newbern. Capt. Goodrich, capt. Blair, the soldiers and negroes, are now within fifteen miles of Halifax jail."

In CONGRESS, *April* 30, 1776.

The committee to whom was referred the memorial of the committee of inspection and observation, for the city and liberties of Philadelphia, praying the advice of congress, whether they ought to continue the exercise of the power of regulating the price of goods in other instances than that of green tea, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration was agreed to; whereupon

Resolved, That the ninth article of the association, which enjoined the inhabitants of the United Colonies to sell goods and merchandizes at the rules they had respectively been accustomed to do for twelve months then last past, was in its nature a temporary regulation respecting the goods then on hand; but as those goods are nearly consumed, and a further supply must be obtained at an extraordinary risk and expence, and it is reasonable that adventurers should be encouraged by a prospect of gain adequate to the danger which may be incurred in the importation, and a free trade being now opened from the United Colonies to all parts of the world, except the dominions belonging to the king of Great-Britain,

Resolved, That the power of committees of inspection and observation, to regulate the ... goods (in other instances than the arti...) ought to cease.

Extract from the minutes.

CHARLES THOMSON, sec.

New-Brunswick, April 23, 1776.

In COMMITTEE of SAFETY.

WHEREAS many dangerous consequences will attend the suffering an unrestrained commerce between the inhabitants of this colony and the continental troops stationed in or passing through this province, therefore

Resolved, That no inhabitant of this colony shall be permitted to purchase or receive, from any non commissioned officer or soldier in the continental service, any goods, cloathing, or any other effects whatsoever, unless such non-commissioned officer or soldier shall first produce a certificate, signed by the commanding officer of the regiment or company to which such non-commissioned officer or soldier belongs, specifying the particular goods permitted to be sold, with the name of the vender; and every person presuming to purchase any goods, cloathing or effects, contrary to this resolution, after being notified thereof, shall be deemed unfriendly to the liberties of America, and treated accordingly; and the committees of the several counties and townships in this colony are enjoined to enforce a compliance with this resolution.

By order of the ... ties,

SAM... TUCKER, President.

PEOPLE OF AMERICA!

BRETHREN, COUNTRYMEN, and FELLOW FREEMEN,

REMEMBER the words of your illustrious and disinterested advocate, that great citizen of the world, the bishop of St. Asaph:

"The endeavours to *separate* the interest of the colonies from that of Great-Britain should be received with the indignation that is due to the artifices of factious men, who wish to grow eminent by the misfortunes of their country. Even in that future state of *independency*, which some are daily wishing them ignorantly with for, but which for their own interest can never be too long delayed, the old attachment will often look back on their present happiness with regret, and consider the peace and security, the state of visible improvement, and brotherly equality, which they enjoyed under their mother country, as the true *golden age of America*."

taken and brought into Norfolk, by the tenders, ... the following vessels, viz. The sloop Congress, with 210 barrels of gunpowder, and a large quantity of cloth, linens, osnabrigs, &c. A schooner, with a very large cargo of medicines, particularly ... bark. A large new ship from Baltimore, ... Liverpool, with 1900 barrels of flour and ... bushels of wheat; this last taken by old G... commands a privateer, fitted out by him... two others, one commanded by his son William, the other by a certain William Fackett. A brig, outward bound, loaded with provisions. And a New-England schooner, supposed to be bound for Maryland. There were taken and brought in, some little time before, three vessels with gunpowder, about 5000 stand of arms, &c. also a ... to Lisbon, for a cargo of salt and wines for the use of lord Dunmore and the army expected from England, which it is supposed will arrive about the middle of May. Keep a sharp look out, boys, for this vessel. Punch is a most agreeable and enlivening beverage in the hot summer weather; and our good housewives will want plums &c. against Christmas, to trim up many a dainty dish for that festive season, when ... to be hoped we shall all be merry, and have sufficient cause to rejoice.

All masters of vessels taken bringing in arms and ammunition are put in the prison vessel and laid in irons, and are to be sent to England for trial.

Ammunition is in such plenty on board the fleet, that lord Dunmore gives it gratis to those who fit out privateers.

Last Saturday his excellency the general, with his two aids de camp and secretary, col. Bullitt, &c. set out for Suffolk; since which, we learn that his excellency has marched from that place, at the head of a large body of troops, upon some secret expedition.

The prisoners taken during the late commotions in North-Carolina are to be sent, fourteen of them to this colony, the rest to Maryland and Pennsylvania, as they are likely to have an active campaign in that province, when, perhaps, those parricides to their country might find means to escape, and return to their former rebellious practices.

April ... capt. John Dixon, in a vessel from Gloucester, bound to the West Indies, who was lately taken by a man of war, and carried into Antigua, has returned from St. Eustatia, and landed a cargo in this colony consisting of four thousand pounds sterling worth of linens, sail duck, &c. The captain informs, that the Argo sloop of war had chased a vessel among the islands, but was prevented from taking her by a French frigate, who exchanged a few shot with the Argo, took the vessel under convoy, and carried her safe into a French island.

Thirty-eight sail of the men of war and transports destined for North-Carolina from England, are said to be arrived at Cape Fear, and that they took on the passage a large French ship with arms and ammunition.

In COMMITTEE of SAFETY, *at Williamsburg, April 24, 1776.*

Ordered, That the letter from Ralph Wormely, jun. Esq; to John Grymes, esq; lately intercepted, together with the resolution of this board thereupon, be published in the Virginia Gazette.

(A copy.)

JOHN BUCKLEY, assistant clerk.

DEAR SIR, *Rosegill, April 4, 1776.*

WHEN you and Mr. Neilson returned from Norfolk, you informed me that lord Dunmore either wished or expected, or thought it my duty, that I should immediately, in person, repair to his lordship; that some such ostensible marks of my attachment to government, and loyalty to my king, were looked for from me; and that, notwithstanding my unequivocal, steady, and invariable conduct, if I still continue at home, I may be exposed to the indiscriminating ravages of war, without any chance of reparation. Whether this opinion is founded on the late proclamation of the king's, on the late advices from the minister, or from his lordship's conjectures, I do not know. As to the proclamation, and the late advices from the minister, I have an easy answer: tit. I have ... on the proclamation, never heard it either read ... ed; it cannot then be expected of me to pay ... to any instrument of that sort whose contents ... have no cognizance before they are submitted to my senses. ad. As ... vices of the minister, which may lead his lordship to conclude it to be the duty of every man now, when the friends of government are in such a state of impotency, or rather are under such complete dominion, to repair to his lordship, without probability of advancing any practicable scheme of utility, of concerting any effectual plan of operations, and without regard to circumstances, I say, Sir, such advices are repugnant to the words and meaning of the king. In the true knowledge of our present situation, his majesty thus expresses himself: "And although many of these *unhappy people* may still retain their loyalty, and may be too wise not to see the fatal consequences of this usurpation, and *wish* to *resist* it, yet the torrent of violence has been strong enough to compel their *acquiescence*, until a sufficient force shall appear to support them." A few observations on the above quoted passage will prove the repugnancy. "Unhappy people!" In what? In being overpowered by these usurpers, so overpowered, that they cannot even *fight*, they can only *wish*, to resist it. This being the case, what are these unhappy people to do? What does his majesty expect? Not their fruitless vain endeavours, which prejudice every cause; he knows, that the torrent of violence is strong enough to retain them in their compulsive acquiescence, "till a sufficient force shall appear to support them." He expects, then, they will wait the event. They will have, they have a right to protest ... every effort and endeavour now, on their part, ... only issue in ruin to themselves, and in ... cause. No man bears the accursed tyranny ... with more impatient mortification than ... self. If there were a corner on the face of the earth that I could ... in, and enjoy that freedom that I am now ... deprived of, I would, for the gratification of my own happiness, fly to it. I have too much feeling left to be exquisitely sensible of my slavish condition.

Ignorant of, ... judgment that ... I wish he had ... opinion from ... on which he formed it. To convey myself, together with the ... of life, without my intention being discovered, is almost impossible. Besides, I am only an inferior member of the family, have not the command of furniture, bedding, &c. nor provisions; and exportation being prohibited, if I could afford, I could not command money for my support. Add to this the probability of all resources being cut off, whereby wheat, flour, or corn, are now furnished; as the army of the provincials increases, unless one of equal or superior force should soon arrive from Britain. Numbers, in such a case, will add to the difficulties that the fleet, army, and people at Norfolk, labour under. Hundreds will only multiply these inconveniences; thousands alone can remove them. These reasons weigh with me at present, and restrain me from taking the step Mr. Neilson advises with so much urgency. But, after all, what beneficial consequence could my personal attendance operate in favour of that cause whose success I have at heart. My example is not efficacious enough to influence others to follow it. What exertions of mine could now avail? And are not ineffectual exertions capitally erroneous in policy? Would not, or might not, the departure of a person of my insignificance quicken the jealousy of the present rulers, give fresh vigour to the persecution, and make them lash our few party-friends, not with that rod of iron which we have experienced, severe enough for the most criminal atrocity, but with a red-hot one fresh from the infernal forge of tyranny. If, though, the governor should think my presence necessary, and that I can, in any degree, be assistant to his lordship, government, or my country, will give me official summons, and afford me proper facilities to reach him, I will, to the prejudice of my health, which is, as you know, at present interrupted by a most inveterate disorder, and which disorder would certainly be aggravated ... exclusive of vegetables, at the risk of my life ... everything, obey it. Will you be so obliging as to communicate this where you think it necessary? And, under all vicissitudes of fortune, believe me to be, with the most unalterable sincerity,

Your most affectionate friend,

RALPH WORMELEY, jun.

To JOHN GRYMES, Esq;

In COMMITTEE of SAFETY, *at Williamsburg, April 22, 1776.*

RALPH WORMLEY, jun. Esq; appearing before this committee in custody, and being examined touching his letter to Mr. John Grymes, of the 4th of April 1776, lately intercepted from the said Grymes, on his way to lord Dunmore, the committee hearing what he alleged in his defence, also examining Charles Neilson on oath ... opinion, that nothing appears to us in his conduct ... said letter, to be within the offences defined ... the late ordinance for establishing a mode of punishment for the enemies to America in this colony; but the said letter being, in the opinion of this committee, a full proof of the inimical disposition of the said Ralph Wormeley, jun. Esq; against the rights of America, and shewing a readiness to join the enemy of this colony, provided he should be called and enabled so to do, this committee do resolve, that the said Ralph Wormeley, jun. Esq; be discharged out of custody, upon entering into bond, with approved security, in the penalty of 10,000 l. conditioned that he do not correspond with the enemies of America, join, or in any manner aid or assist them; that he do not depart this colony, without leave of the convention, or committee of safety; and further, that he appear before the said convention, at any time during their next meeting, if he shall be required so to do.

JOHN PAGE, V. P.

A circular letter sent by order of his excellency the general to the commanders of the several battalions.

SIR,

YOU'LL please to give orders to the several recruiting officers of your regiment, not to take any natives of ... Britain or Ireland as recruits, unless they have been ... time residents in the country, have wives and children, or unless they can bring a strong and sufficient recommendation. As this, Sir, is a matter of no small importance, a colonel will be appointed to examine and pass all the fresh recruits; and whoever does not come under this predicament will be thrown on the officer's hands.

By the general's orders.

THOMAS BULLITT, D. A. G.

To the PRINTER *of the* VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

MR. PURDIE,

YOU may inform the public, for a certainty, that lord Dunmore has instituted a court of admiralty, for the trial of all vessels, and their cargoes brought in by the men of war, tenders, &c. which is composed chiefly of the mercantile sages on board the fleet, at the head of whom presides James Ingram, Esq; as chief judge; and Mr. John Brown, late of Norfolk, is said to be prior to the court, and vendue-master.---Mr. Hector M'Aleister is lord Dunmore's right-hand man, acting as principal secretary to his lordship, and is, besides, compiler of the *New Virginia Gazette*, published, occasionally, for the edification and amusement of his majesty's faithful subjects in this colony, and distributed by them, like pious books, among the weak and ignorant, to lead them into the true faith and understanding of the present unhappy dispute between Great-Britain and the American colonies.---And our old friend gen. Shaw is certainly appointed commissary of provisions, from the ponderous ox, and best corn-fed hog, down to the tender chicken, and delicate roasting pig.

ANNAPOLIS, May 9.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in a public character, ... April 23, 1776.

"I have met here a gentleman from Quebec, who left it the 6th instant.---Gen. Wooster arrived there the 2d.---On the 3d a battery was opened on Point Levy, two mores were just finished.---the snow on that day was

deep in other places---there are 2 gentlemen before Quebec, and provisions of all sorts very plenty and very cheap, a calf for 7/6, a sheep for the same ---We have here 1300 troops, cannon, &c. which leave this tomorrow.

There has been a skirmish between a party of our troops and a body of Canadians, who were induced by a proclamation of Carlton's to take up arms.---There were 7 Canadians killed, 4 wounded, and 38 taken prisoners, the rest dispersed and delivered up the proclamation."

TO THE PRINTER.

SIR,

PLEASE insert the inclosed account of Mr. Turbutt Wright in your public paper. and you'll oblige, Sir,

Your humble servant,

RICHARD WILLSON.

Queen-Anne's county, April 15, 1776.

WHEREAS Mr. Turbutt Wright did make free with my character, by representing me in a public company as a coward, I think it my duty in justice to myself to inform the public, that I called upon Mr. Wright in a public company, giving him an opportunity of making public concessions, which he did not choose to do. I afterwards called upon him for the satisfaction due every gentleman under these circumstances, which he in a most cowardly manner refused.

RICHARD WILLSON.

In COUNCIL of SAFETY, *Annapolis, April* 30, 1776.

THE gentlemen who were appointed to collect gold and silver coin are desired to take notice, that we have now received continental money, and that whatever gold and silver they bring in will be immediately exchanged at the treasury.

By order,

G. DUVALL, clerk.

To be sold at public sale, on Monday the 20th day of May, if fair, if not the next fair day, for current cash, at the late dwelling house of Henry Camden, deceased, in Calvert county, near Lyon's-creek,

SUNDRY negroes, cattle and hogs, a hand-mill and some household furniture, cider-casks, and many other things too tedious to mention.

JOSEPH CAMDEN, executor.

And as I am desirous of settling my father's estate, I shall take it particularly kind of all those gentlemen who are indebted to the above estate, either before his death or since, that they will settle them by some means or other, to the satisfaction of their humble servant,

J. C.

Annapolis, May 3, 1776.

GOLIAH,

A remarkable strong black cart-horse, well known in and about this city, eight years old, upwards of sixteen hands high,

WILL, at the request of many respectable gentlemen, planters, and farmers, be let to mares this spring, at the moderate rate of two dollars the leap, and twenty pence to the negro that has the care of him, to be paid at the stable door. The finest and most promising colts are of Goliah's get, and may be seen.

All persons intending to send their mares, are desired to apply previous to the subscriber, and to look at the horse; and, for the convenience of those whom it may not suit to pay cash, I will take good lambs, fit for killing, if brought with the mares in payment.

JOHN ROBINSON.

I have no objection to sending the horse out of town, not exceeding five miles, when there are three or four mares, for a few days, on assurance that care will be taken of him and his attendant.

J. R.

SIX POUNDS REWARD.

Talbot county, Maryland, May 6, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, on the night of the 4th instant, two convicts, viz. William Manly, a well made man, five feet seven inches high, thirty or thirty-five years of age, with black hair cut short, of a surly bad countenance, is a sawyer or labourer, and understands horses: had on a short blue coat much worn, spotted swanskin jacket and trousers, good strong shoes with small nails in the soles and heels, a cap made of English sole leather and painted blue, and had an iron collar about his neck: he is a most impudent infamous villain, this being the third time he has run away, and once he broke jail after he was taken up and committed.

Thomas Pearson, a slender young simple fellow, with light coloured short soft hair, about eighteen or twenty years of age, five feet six inches high, has large eyes and very small fingers, is a sawyer or labourer: had on a drab coloured coat and jacket about half worn, spotted swanskin trousers, and a leather cap and shoes the same as Manly's. They both speak the North of England dialect.

Whoever takes up and secures the said servants, so that I get them again, shall receive if taken in this province forty shillings for each, and if taken up out of this province three pounds for each,

w3 JAMES BRADDOCK.

N.B. 'Tis probable they will change their names, and perhaps some part of their cloaths, and 'tis likely they will lurk in the woods in the day time and travel in the night.

THIS is to acquaint gentlemen, that I have removed from the old house I lived in, across the road to my new buildings, about the distance of one hundred yards, where are good private accommodations kept, and good provender and pasture for horses.

wz JONATHAN RAWLINGS.

THERE is at the plantation of John Daily, in Charles county, taken up as a stray, a black mare, about 12 hands and a half high, with a few white hairs in her face, is a natural pacer, and has no perceivable brand. The owner may have her again on proving property and paying charges.

WANTED at Fort Frederick furnace and I.I. Forge in Frederick county, a large quantity of cord wood cut. Any persons that are willing to hire their negroes for that purpose, may know the terms, by applying to Mr. Lancelot Jacques in Annapolis, or to the subscriber living at the works.

3w DENTON JACQUES.

Annapolis, April 18, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, an indented servant man, named Philip M'Donald, a barber by trade, born in Ireland, about five feet seven inches high, dark complexion, and black hair tied behind remarkably frizzled, pale faced and pitted with the small-pox, takes snuff in great quantities, and is very fond of liquor: had on when he went away a light gray old coat. He can give no better reason for his elopement than often meriting chastisement and never receiving it. Should he be taken within ten miles twenty shillings reward, within the province forty shillings, and out of the province three pounds currency, and all charges will be paid by

JUSTUS SIEBERT,
Hair-dresser in Annapolis.

SPRIGHTLY

To be let to mares the ensuing season, at Schoolfield, Prince-George's county.

THE high bred English horse, SPRIGHTLY, full fifteen hands high, rising seven years old, is of a beautiful dark chesnut colour, was got by Wildman's Babram, his dam by Rogers's Babram, his grandam by Sedbury out of lord Portmore's Ebony; is well suited to breed for either the saddle or turf, being remarkably light, and quick in his movements, free from any blemish or incumbrance of gum, and is imagined equal to any horse on the continent, four mile heats at nine stone. He will be let at six dollars, for the season, and half a crown to the groom, and as at so low a rate the cash will be expected before the horse is led out. Good pasture for mares to be had at half a crown a week, or at half a dollar, with proper feeding; and mares above 15 miles distance two weeks gratis.

tf

April 16, 1776.

To be sold at public vendue, by the subscriber, on Thursday the 16th day of May next, on the premises, for sterling or current money, at the general exchange,

PART of a tract of land called Duvall's range, conveyed to the subscriber for 276 acres more or less, situate in Anne-Arundel county, on the east side of the north branch of Patuxent river. On this land are two tenements, with plenty of good board, shingle and rail timber; forty acres of good meadow may be made on the said land, with very little trouble; the tenements are in good repair and produce very fine tobacco and Indian corn. Twelve months credit will be given the purchaser, on giving bond on interest with [illegible] if required. The land may be viewed any [illegible] before the day of sale, by applying to the subscr[illegible]

DAVID ST[illegible]RT, son of DAVID.

April 15, 1776.

ALL persons indebted to George Matthews, late of Kingsbury furnace in Baltimore county, deceased, are desired to make immediate payment, to enable us to execute his will, and all those who have claims against him are desired to exhibit them properly authenticated, to

T. RUSSELL
and
w8 JAMES SMITH, } executors.

April 10, 1776.

CARELESS,

STANDS the ensuing season at Strawberry-hill, within one mile of Annapolis, and will cover mares at six dollars the season, if pastured; four dollars, if not pastured; or two dollars, the single leap. CARELESS is a fine bay, rising five years, upwards of fourteen hands two inches, and was got by col. Baylor's Fearnought; his dam by Dove, his grand-dam by Othello, his great-grand-dam by old Spark, out of the high bred mare Queen Mab, who was the dam of col. Hopper's Pacolet. Good grass for mares. Indian corn will be taken in payment at 2 s. 6 d. per bushel, delivered at Strawberry-hill before the first of July, by

5w THOMAS WILL[illegible]SON.

P. S. I will be answerable for no mares that may get away.

The beautiful full-blooded hunter,

BAY BOLTON,

Full 16 hands high and well formed, a dark bay, eight years old,

STANDS on Constitution-hill, near Piscataway, and will cover mares this season at two guineas, or forty shillings the leap, if paid when the mare is taken away, or four pounds credit till the first of April 1777, and if not paid in that time to pay interest from the date. I have very fine pasture for mares, and will have great care [illegible] of them, but will not be answerable in case of loss.

EDWARD EDELEN.

I think it needless to describe him as he is generally known; he stood last season at [illegible] John Carlyle's plantation in Virginia.

w3

SIX DOLLARS REWARD.

STRAYED away from the widow M'Donall's, between Baltimore and Annapolis, on Thursday night the 13th of March, out of the fodder house, a bay horse, about 14 hands and an half high, paces, trots, and gallops, marked C S on his left shoulder. Whoever takes up said horse, and brings him to capt. Samuel Maynard's at Herring-Creek, or to William Hayes, Fell's Point, Baltimore, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges paid if brought home.

Patuxent Iron-Works, February 6, 1776.

BEING desirous of settling the estate of our father, RICHARD SNOWDEN, late of Patuxent Iron-Works, deceased, we request all such as are indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, as no longer indulgence will be given them. Also all persons that are indebted to the Patuxent Iron-Works Company, of more than twelve months standing, are requested to come immediately and make payment; and those who have it not in their power to make immediate payment, it is expected they will come and settle their accounts by note or bond. If the above requests are not complied with, we shall take such methods as will compel a settlement, without respect to persons, although it will be disagreeable to

tf SAMUEL and JOHN SNOWDEN.

PREROGATIVE OFFICE,
March 11, 1776.

WHEREAS the records of the commissary's office are removed to Upper Marlborough, by the direction of the Council of Safety for the province of Maryland, I am directed to give this public notice, that the common business of that office will from henceforth be transacted at that place.

And as the commissary's courts are by law appointed to be held at the city of Annapolis, where the same must indispensably be continued, the commissary general, anxious to relieve as far as in his power the difficulties arising to the people, from the removal of the records to such distance from the capital, hath resolved to attend at both places in every court week, which will be on the second Tuesdays of May, July, September, and November; and to that end, will hold his courts every second Tuesday in said months at the city of Annapolis, for the convenience of the inhabitants of the Eastern-shore, and others whom it may best suit. And he will from thence proceed on the Thursday to Upper Marlborough, there to sit during the remainder of the week for the dispatch of public business.

I also give notice, that for the greater ease and convenience of the inhabitants of Anne-Arundel county, who may have business with me as deputy commissary of that county, I shall give attendance every Tuesday at the house of Mr. Cornelius Garrettson in the city of Annapolis for that purpose.

tf ELIE VALLETTE, register.

Wanted immediately, delivered at the contractor's store in Annapolis,

A QUANTITY of potatoes, parsneps, carrots, beans, cockstone beans, or any kind of Indian peas, for which will be given the highest prices, by

ISAAC M'HARD,
for Mr. ROBERT CUMMINS.

Annapolis, March 26, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, an indented servant lad, named Edward Burford, born in Hampshire, about five feet two inches high, fair complexion and brown hair: had with him two cloth coats, one a London brown, the other of coarse light coloured cloth with waistcoat of the same, much worn, good buckskin breeches, ribb'd worsted stockings and English made shoes. He is very fond of liquor, and can give no better reason for his elopement, than that he often merited chastisement and never received it. He was seen at Mr. Jacob Sampson's in Prince-George's county, pretending leave to visit a ship-mate. Should he be taken ten miles from home I will give 40 shillings reward on his return.

J. CLAPHAM.

ABRAHAM CLAUDE,

WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, and SILVERSMITH,
Opposite Mrs. Johnson's tavern, ANNAPOLIS,

BEGS leave to acquaint the public in general, and his friends in particular, that he still continues to carry on the aforesaid trades in all their various branches, and at the most reasonable rates; also that he cleans and repairs all sorts of fire-arms, small swords, hangers, and cutlasses. He also makes hooks for swords in the neatest and most approved manner.

N. B. He has several gross of hooks and eyes to dispose of cheap.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK GREEN.